

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/627,857

Examiner

James M. Hewitt

Applicant(s)

WOSIK, MARSHALL W.

Art Unit

3679

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the reply filed 8/1/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 18-21 which will appear as 1-4 respectively in the patent.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
(b) ☒ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |


JAMES M. HEWITT
PRIMARY EXAMINER

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Preston Smirman on 8/11/05.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the specification:

The specification at page 16, lines 2-11, has been rewritten as follows:

FIG. 8 illustrates a hydraulic fitting assembly 400 that utilizes a plug 402, an o-ring 404, and a port or female connector 406. The plug 402 is comprised of an internal bore 408 that can be hexagonal in shape for receiving a tool for tightening and loosening the plug. The plug 402 further includes a cap 410, a frusto-conical portion 412, a groove portion 420, and a threaded portion 416. The groove portion 420 is designed similarly to the construction shown in FIGS. 2 and 3. However, the design is changed in that the o-ring 404 resides in a groove 414 located in the female member 406, as well as in a groove 420 that is located within the plug 402. This allows the seal to be compressed within to the cavity 418 that is created by grooves 414 and 420.

The specification at page 16, lines 16-22, has been rewritten as follows:

The plug 452 is comprised of a groove recess 460 that is operable to receive o-ring 456. The groove 460 is positioned on an outer surface 462 of the plug 452. The port 458 has a groove 464 that is normal to face 466. The grooves 460, 464, respectively are slightly larger than the outer diameter of the o-rings 456, 454, respectively yet allow for ample room for compression of the o-rings during assembly. The construction of the grooves 460 and 464 are similar to the construction of the groove 52 as disclosed in FIGS. 2 and 3 above.

The specification at page 16, line 23 - page 17, line 6, has been rewritten as follows:

FIG. 10 illustrates a partial sectional view of an alternative fitting assembly 500 utilizing a plug 502, an o-ring 504, and a port 506. The plug 502 is comprised of a hex-head portion 508 (e.g. a cap portion) that is operable to receive a wrench, an integral washer face 510 (e.g. an annular shoulder portion), a frustro-conical portion 512, a groove 514 within the face of the frustro-conical portion 512 (e.g. to form a seal portion), and a threaded portion 516. As shown in FIG. 10, the annular shoulder portion (e.g. washer face 510) has a diameter at least equal to or greater than the diameter of the cap portion (e.g. hex-head portion 508). The seal 504 is similar in construction to the o-ring 124 of FIG. 5. The groove 514 is located normal to the face of the frustro-conical surface 512 and is constructed similarly to the groove disclosed in FIG. 5. As shown in FIG. 10, the port 506 is operable to at least partially receive the annular shoulder portion

(e.g. washer face 510) of the fitting assembly 500, wherein the shoulder portion (e.g. washer face 510) is operable to seal the port 506 when the annular shoulder portion (e.g. washer face 510) is partially received in the port 506.

The specification at page 17, lines 10-18, has been rewritten as follows:

FIG. 11 is an alternative illustration of yet an additional connector assembly 600 utilizing a nut 602, o-ring, a port 606 and a male connector 608. This embodiment differs from the FIG. 6 embodiment in that the nut design is different. The nut 602 includes an integral washer 610 (e.g. an annular shoulder portion) (making it a flanged nut) and a frustro-conical face 612 (e.g. to form a seal portion). An internal fluid passageway 614 extends through the assembly 600 and extends substantially parallel to axis 616. The nut 602 is comprised of a hex-head cap 617 (e.g., a cap portion). Within the face is a groove 618 positioned normal to the face 612. The o-ring 604 is positioned in the groove 618 and extends into a recess adjacent the threaded area 619 of the port 606.

The specification at page 17, lines 19-24, has been rewritten as follows:

As an option, the washer 610 could have a face with a groove 620 for receiving a portion of another o-ring 604'. The opposing surface within the port 606 could have a corresponding grooved portion 622 for receiving the o-ring 604'. The grooves 622 and 620 are sized to operably receive o-ring 604'. The resulting fluid assembly 600 creates a unique fluid fitting assembly utilizing a plug device.

The specification at page 18, lines 1-7, has been rewritten as follows:

FIG. 12 is an alternative to the FIG. 11 design, illustrating a fluid fitting 700 including a flanged nut 702 (e.g. a cap portion), a conical-shaped washer 704 (e.g. an annular shoulder portion) shown in a flattened position, a port 706 and a male connector 708. An o-ring 710 is positioned adjacent to the washer 704 (e.g. an annular shoulder portion), wherein the washer 704 is located in a recess 712 located in the bore 714 of the port 706. The o-ring 710 is further positioned adjacent the threads 716. The washer 704 (e.g. an annular shoulder portion) compresses the o-ring 710 within the recess 712 to ensure integrity of the fitting.

Drawings

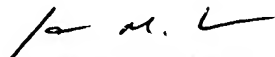
The following changes to the drawings have been approved by the examiner and agreed upon by applicant: In Figure 11, reference numeral '622' should reference the left side of the o-ring opposite the lead line for reference numeral '620'. In order to avoid abandonment of the application, applicant must make these above agreed upon drawing changes.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James M. Hewitt whose telephone number is 571-272-7084.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel Stodola can be reached on 571-272-7087. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


JAMES M. HEWITT
PRIMARY EXAMINER